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INFORMATION REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

SUBJECT Production of Theodolites at the Meopta Optical Factory

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. The main plant of Meopta National Corporation, manufacturers of precision optical instruments and optical machinery, is located at Prague-Musle, Englova 1411 and formerly went under the name ETA. Total number of employees at this plant is between 350 and 400, and of this number about 30 are employed in the optics workshop.
2. The production items with top priority are theodolites for cameras and for military range finders. Movie camera theodolites consist of the following parts:
 - a. An objective composed of eight kinds of lenses cemented together.
 - b. A converging lens composed of uncemented lenses
 - c. Cover glasses
 - d. Cover plates
 - e. Rotating prisms 5 cm thick and 20-30 mm in diameter. Hexagonal or octagonal in shape, the prisms are opaque at the base and polished on the other sides.
3. The theodolites are used in cameras which are also produced at Meopta. Lighting in the camera is done with the aid of a selenium cell. The speed of the camera can be regulated, and is estimated to be between 1,800 - 2,000 revolutions (sic) per minute.
4. Production of theodolites and movie cameras began at the end of World War II. About 50 cameras were produced by 1946, and then stored at the Meopta dump. Since there was no demand for the cameras, production was discontinued. Then in 1947, three of the cameras were exported to the USSR. In 1949 foreign importers were interested in buying some of these cameras and in the second half of 1949 production of cameras and theodolites was started again.

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5. Production of theodolites for military range finders was begun in 1949. The range finders were to be delivered to the gun workshop of the Skoda Works in Pilsen. The prism of such range finders is dodecagonal and is 1 to 1.5 cm in thickness and 13 cm in diameter. Both bases are opaque and the other sides are polished.
6. Since 1946, when German supplies of optical prismatic glass were exhausted, Russian optical glass has been used. This type, however, in addition to being scarce, is inferior in quality to the German product.
7. Other branches of Meopta are located in the following places:

	<u>Former Plant Name</u>
Brno	Suchanek
Hovorovice (051/L89)	Bradacove
Krasna Lipa (N51/P36)	Projekce
Modrany (051/L77)	Loeschner
Prague-Liben, Strasburg Street	Stys Dalibor
Prague-Zabehlice	Altofot
Prague-Kosire, Kavalirka Street	Srb and Stys
Prerov (P50/003)	Optikotechna
Teplice-Trnovany, Husova Street	Somet

Attachment: Sketch of the Meopta plant in Prague-Musle

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